

**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS**

1. (Currently Amended) An automatic photography system comprising:  
a photographing portion; and  
a control portion comprising:  
a shape extractor extracting means, for repeatedly extracting shapes that represent expressions of human subjects within images, which are being imaged by the photographing portion;  
a match calculator calculating means for recording predetermined shapes in advance, and for sequentially calculating the degrees of match between the extracted shapes and the predetermined shapes; and  
a controller control means for controlling the photographing portion to photograph the subjects when the calculated degrees of match exceed a predetermined threshold value, wherein:  
the predetermined threshold value is decreased according to an increase in the number of shape extractions.

2. (Cancelled)
3. (Currently Amended) An automatic photography system as defined in claim 1 2, wherein:  
the control portion further comprises:  
an identifying data receiver receiving means, for receiving identifying data, transmitted from the subjects, that identifies the subjects; and

a memory ~~means~~ for recording predetermined threshold values corresponding to the identifying data of the subjects received by the identifying data ~~receiver receiving means~~; wherein:

the controller control means controls the photographing portion based on the predetermined threshold values which are recorded in the memory ~~means~~, corresponding to the received identifying data.

4. (Currently Amended) An automatic photography system comprising:
  - a photographing portion; and
  - a control portion comprising:
    - a shape extractor extracting means, for repeatedly extracting shapes that represent poses of subjects within images, which are being imaged by the photographing portion;
    - a match calculator calculating means for recording predetermined shapes in advance, and for sequentially calculating the degrees of match between the extracted shapes and the predetermined shapes; and
    - a controller control means for controlling the photographing portion to photograph the subjects when the calculated degrees of match exceed a predetermined threshold value, wherein:  
the predetermined threshold value is decreased according to an increase in the number of shape extractions.

5. (Cancelled)

6. (Currently Amended) An automatic photography system as defined in claim 4 5,  
wherein:

the control portion further comprises:  
an identifying data receiver receiving means, for receiving identifying data, transmitted  
from the subjects, that identifies the subjects; and  
a memory means for recording predetermined threshold values corresponding to the  
identifying data of the subjects received by the identifying data receiving means; wherein:  
the controller control means controls the photographing portion based on the  
predetermined threshold values which are recorded in the memory means, corresponding to the  
received identifying data.